

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3288
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3086

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR KS KN
SUBJ: NACC FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING IN NEW DELHI: KOREAN
QUESTION

SUMMARY: INITIAL ROKG IMPRESSION OF NEW DELHI NACC IS THAT
NORTH KOREANS DI NOT DO PARTICULARLY WELL. AS SAME TIME
NORTH'S STRATEGY FOR UNGA IS NOT YET CLEAR. MOFA UN DIVISION
CHIEF SUGGESTS FURTHER EFFORT TO DETERMINE REACTION OF
NK'S ALLIES TO NORTH'S NACC APPROACH AND REQUEST U.S.
ASSESSEMTN OF NACC NORTH KOREA HAS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION
WITH NACC OUTCOME, BUT THAT IS WHAT THEY SAIS ABOUT COLOMBO.

1. PRELININARY ASSESSMENT OF MOFA UN DIVISION CHIEF YI CHONG
PIN IS THAT NEW DELHI NACC MEETING APRIL 6-11 DID NOT
PROVIDE CLEAR INDICATION OF NORTH KOREAN INTENTIONS
REGARDING KOREAN QUESTION IN THIS YEAR'S UNGA. YI, WHO
WENT TO DELHI AS OBSERVER, CONCLUDED THAT SOME CONSULTATION
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AMONG THE CORE GROUP NATIONS WOULD BE VERY USEFUL AT THIS
STAGE TO ASSESS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MILDER LANGUAGE
ON KOREA PROPOSED AT NEW DELHI, THE INTENTIONS OF THE
NORTH KOREANS AND THE ATTITUDES OF NORTH KOREA'S NON
ALIGNED SUPPORTERS.

2. YI SAID THE NEW DELHI MEETING PROVIDED "MUCH EVIDENCE"

THAT INDIA'S POSITION WAS PRO-ROK. HE MENTIONED FOLLOWING AS INDICATION OF THIS AND OF DIFFICULTIES NORTH KOREANS HAD: (A) THE INDIAN DRAFT ON KOREA WAS NEARLY IDENTICAL TO THE ORIGINAL SRI LANKA DRAFT PROPOSED AT COLOMBO, RATHER THAN RESEMBLING THE FINAL RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE; (B) INDIANS (VERMA) REBUFFED THREE NORTH KOREAN APPROACHES TO THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE IN WHICH NORTH KOREANS PROPOSED ADDITION OF THREE PARAGRAPHS ON KOREA WHICH INCLUDED INTER ALIA, REFERENCE TO "JOINT MEETING OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS"; (C) AFTER UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE FOR NORTH KOREAN DRAFT AMENDMENT ALGERIAN DEL MADE ORAL AMENDMENT TO INDIAN DRAFT AND NORTH KOREAN DEL WAS "VERY DISPLEASED"; (D) ROK AMBASSADOR YI BOM SOK WAS INVITED TO OPENING CEREMONY, NK WAS RUMORED TO BE PLANNING WALKOUT BUT DID NOT, (E) INDIANS WERE VERY GENEROUS IN RECEIVING ROK AMBASSAODR DURING CONFERENCE DESPITE THEIR OBVIOUSLY BUSY SECHEDULE. YI SAID THERE WAS LESS OBVIOUS EVIDENCE OF NORTH KOREAN COORDINATION WITH THEIR ALLIES THAN HE HAD EXPECTED, BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE. THERE WAS NOT, FOR EXAMPLE, MUCH CONTACT IN NAC CONFERENCE LOBBY BETWEEN NK AND OTHER DELS. CONTACT PROBABLY OCCURRED, BUT IT WAS NOT NOTICABLE, ACCORDING TO YI.

3. YI SAID SOME DELEAGTES COMMENTED TO VARIOUS ROK OFFICIALS ABOUT "MILDNESS" OF NORTH KOREAN REPRESENTATIVE YI CHONG-MOD'S SPEECH AND INDIAN DELEGATE WONDERED ALOUD WHY NORTH KOREA DID NOT TRY TO "MANEUVER" MORE VIGOROUSLY TO GET THEIR PREFERRED LANGUAGE INSERTED INTO THE RECORD. YI ALSO SAID THAT ZAIRE ENTERED ORAL RESERVATION ON KOREA CONFIDENTIAL

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LANGUAGE AND INDONESIA ENTERED WRITTEN RESERVATION. IN ADDITION, HE HEARD DURING PLANE RIDE BACK TO SEOUL THAT BANGLADESH AND LIBERIA HAD ALSO ENTERED RESERVATIONS. HE IS QUERYING ROK EMBASSY NEW DELHI FOR CONFIRMATION.

4. BASED ON THE FOREGOING OBSERVATIONS, IT APPEARS TO US THAT NORTH KOREANS MAY NOT HAVE GOTTEN THE DEGREE OF COOPERATION FROM THEIR SUPPORTERS THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED IN THE PAST, OR THAT THEY WERE NOT AS VIGOROUS IN SEEKING SUPPORT AS THEY HAVE BEEN" ROKG HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ANY INFORMATION U.S. AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CORE GROUP OR GRIENDLY COUNTRIES CAN UNCOVER CONCERNING REACTIONS OF SUCH DELEGATIONS AS THOSE FROM CUBA, YUGOSLAVIA, ALGIERA, IRAQ, TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA. IN MANY CASES DELEGATIONS WERE HEADED BY AMBASSADORS TO THE UN. NEW YORK MIGHT, THEREFORE, BE A USEFUL PLACE TO ATTEMPT TO UNCOVER REACTION OF THESE COUNTRIES TO NORTH KOREA'S POSITION AT NACC. ADDITIONALLY, IT MIGHT BE INFORMATIVE TO TRY TO GET A TEXT OF THE ORIGINAL NORTH KOREAN THREE

PARAGRAPH AMENDMENT, A COPY OF WHICH WAS SUBMITTED TO THE INDIANS (PARA 2 (B) ABOVE) AND THEN RETRIEVED APPARENTLY BEFORE THE INDIANS THOUGHT TO MAKE A COPY OF IT.

6. YI MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WAS NOT PUSHING FOR A CORE GROUP MEETING, BUT AT SAME TIME POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS SUFFICIENT MYSTERY STILL ABOUT NORTH KOREA'S INTENTIONS FOR 32ND UNGA TO MAKE SOME SORT OF CONSULTATION, EITHER BI-LATERAL OR IN THE CORE GROUP, WORTHWHILE.

7. INCIDENTALLY, WE NOTE THAT PYONGYANG RADIO BROADCAST APRIL 15 EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH OUTCOME OF NACC MEETING IN EW DELHI AND CONSTRUED SOUTH KOREAN "CRITICISM" OF THE CONFERENCE AS REFLECTING THE ISOLATION OF SOUTH KOREA FROM THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. SELF CONGRATULATION IS PRO FORMA IN PYONGYANG AND WE DO NOT ATTACH MUCH SIGNIFICANCE TO THE DPRK'S STATEMENT, PARTICULARLY SINCE
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THE NORTH MADE A SIMILAR STATEMENT FOLLOWING THEIR "GREAT VICTORY" AT COLOMBO.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO AN CONCLUSIONS DEPARTMENT, USUN AND OTHER ADDRESSEES AS APPROPRIATE HAVE REGARDING REACTION OF NORTH KOREA'S FRIENDS AS OUTLINED IN PARA 4 ABOVE. ADDITIONALLY, WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT AND USUN VIEWS ON NEXT STEP FOR CORE GROUP WHICH WE CAN CONVEY TO MOFA.
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